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SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1908

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THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, APRIL 23-25, 1908

THE general meeting of the American Philosophical Society was held at Philadelphia on April 23, 24 and 25. The opening session was on April 23 at 2:30 P.M., and morning and afternoon sessions were held on the following days; with an evening lecture by Professor Henry F. Osborn on April 24, at the hall of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, which was followed by a reception to the visiting members and friends of the society. The sessions were largely attended. The meeting closed with a dinner at the Bellevue-Stratford on the evening of April 25.

Forty-two papers were presented, covering a wide range of subjects. Among those relating to science were the following:

Cytomorphosis, a Study of the Law of Cellular Change: CHARLES SEDGWICK MINOT, of Harvard University.

Cellular change is in the direction of the differentiation of the protoplasm of the cell. As more and more of the undifferentiated protoplasm becomes specialized, the cell loses its plasticity to respond to exterior influences, and the power of the cell to reproduce depends upon the amount of undifferentiated protoplasm remaining. A blood corpuscle, for instance, which contains no undifferentiated protoplasm can not reproduce and must die. In muscle, on the other hand, the small amount of undifferentiated protoplasm remaining in the cell enables it to grow, and repair injuries.